Lithotomia Douglaſſiana:

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OR,

An Account of a New METHOD of making the High Operation, in order to extract the Stone out of the Bladder.

Which is much eaſier to the Patient, much ſooner done by the Operator, and the Cure much more certain, than after any of the other Methods now in Uſe.

By which alſo, ſeveral of the moſt diſmal Conſequences of the common Operations are entirely prevented, ſuch as *Incontinency* of *Urine*, *Impotency*, *Fiſtula*'s, *&c.*

Invented and ſucceſsfully perform'd

BY

JOHN DOUGLAS, Surgeon.

Non eſt ut fidas his, qui merè audita recenſent: Fidas autem illis ſerio, qui ex Experientia propria loquuntur.

LONDON:

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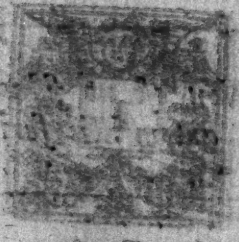
An Account of a New Manner

of making the High Operation

in order to extract the Stone out of the Bladder, &c.



Lithotomia Douglaſſiana:

OR,

An Account of a New METHOD of making the HIGH OPERATION, in order to extract the Stone out of the Bladder, *&c.*

IN this new Operation, I cut on the lower Part of the Belly. In the common Operations, *viz.* Cutting on the *Staffe*, and cutting on the *Gripe*, they cut on the *Perinæum*, *i.e.* between the Teſticles and Fundament.

This Section is call'd by Authors, *The High Operation*, or *Hypogastrick Section*.

I have hitherto only met with three, that ever pretended to have made it: The first of whom is *Peter de Franco* of *Turriers* in *France*, of which he gives the following Account in his Treatise of *Hernia's*, (at the End of the 33d Chapter, Page 139) publish'd at *Lyons* in the Year 1561, in these Words:

" *Histoire,*

" *Je reciteray ce que une fois m'est advenu*
" *voulant tirer une pierre a un enfant de deux*
" *ans ou environ: auquel ayant trouué la pierre*
" *de la Grosseur d'um œuf de poulle, ou peu pres,*
" *je fey tout ce que je peu pour la mener bas: &*
" *voyant que je ne pouuoye rien avancer par*
" *tous mes efforts, avec ce, que le patient estoit*
" *merueillcusement tormenté, & aussi les Parens*
" *desirans qu'il mourust plustost que de viure en*
" *tel travail: Joint aussi, que je ne vouloye pas*
" *quil me fut Reproché de ne l'avoir seu tirer,*
" *(qui estoit à moy grand folie) je deliberay*
" *avec l'importunité du pere, Mere, & amis, de*
" *Copper le dit enfant par dessus l'os Pubis, d'au-*
" *tant que la Pierre ne voulut descendre bas,*
" *& fut Coppé sur le Penil, un peu a Costè &*
" *sur la Pierre. Car je leuoys icelle avec mes*
" *doigts, qui estoyèt au fondment, & d'autre*
" *Costé en la tenant subiette avec les mains*
" *d'un Serviteur qui comprimoit le petit ventre*

" *eu deſſus de la pierre, Dont elle fut tirée hors*
" *par ce moyen, & puis apres le patient fut*
" *guary, (non obſtant qu'il en fut bien malade)*
" *& la playe conſolidée: Combien que je ne*
" *conſeille à homme d'ainſi faire. Ains pluſt-*
" *oſt uſer du moyen par nous inventé du quel*
" *nous venons de parler.*

This is (in his own Words) all that he ſays about it: Which, for the Benefit of thoſe that don't underſtand *French*, I ſhall tranſlate into *Engliſh*, thus:

" He ſays, he had a Child about two
" Years old, who had a Stone in the Bladder
" as big as a Hen's Egg, brought to him to
" cut: He uſed all his Dexterity to force the
" Stone down to the Neck of the Bladder,
" but found it impoſſible to be done: The
" Child was in that Torture and Miſery,
" that the Parents wiſhed him rather dead,
" than he ſhould live longer in ſo doleful a
" Condition. *De Franco*, on the other Hand,
" thinking it would tend to his Diſhonour
" not to take away the Stone, at laſt re-
" ſolv'd to make Tryal, whether he could
" not bring it to the very Groin, which he
" did, by putting his Fingers into the Fun-
" dament, and raiſing up the Stone, he caus'd
" his Servant, on the other Side oppoſite to
" him, to preſs it down to the Place in-
" tended for Inciſion; which he made, took
" out the Stone, and, tho' the Child was

" very

" very weak, recover'd him, and heal'd the
" Wound: But he adviſes others not to fol-
" low his Example; and, inſtead of it, re-
" commends the Operation which he calls
" his own Invention, and has deſcrib'd, in
" the foregoing Part of the ſame Chapter.

The next to him, that's ſaid to have per-form'd it, is one *Bonnet*, of whom Monſ. *Tollet*, in the 5th Edition of his *Lithotomy*, publiſh'd at *Paris* 1708, gives the following Account, Page 139.

" *Feu M.* Jonnot *m'a dit autrefois que*
" *M.* Bonnet *Chirurgien, qui pratiquoit il ya*
" *tres-long-temps la Lithotomie dans l'* Hôtel
" Dieu *de* Paris, *l'avoit aſſuré d'en avoir taillé*
" *de cette façon. M.* Petit, *Maitre Chirurgien*
" *façon de cet Hoſpital mà dit l'avoir vu pratique*
" *ſur une Petite fille par le même M.* Bonnet.

" Mr. *Tollet* ſays, that the late Mr. *Jonnot*
" (who was alſo a famous *Lithotomiſt*) told
" him formerly, that Mr. *Bonnet*, a Surgeon,
" who practis'd *Lithotomy* a conſiderable
" Time ago in the *Hotel Dieu* at *Paris*, aſſur'd
" him, (*viz.* Mr. *Jonnot*) that he had cut
" after that Manner. Mr. *Petit*, Maſter-Sur-
" geon of that Hoſpital, alſo told our Au-
" thor, that he had ſeen it practiſed by the
" ſame *Bonnet* on a young Girl.

Monſ.

Monſ. *Dionis*, in the 2d Edition of his *Courſe of Chirurgical Operations*, publiſh'd at *Paris* 1714, Page 139, gives the following Account of the ſame Man, *viz.*

" *On nous aſſure que Monſieur* Bonnet *a* " *pratiqué ſouvent cette Operation à l'Hôtel* " Dieu *de* Paris *avec une heureux ſuccés, &* " *que même Monſieur Petit luy a vû faire.*

" We are aſſur'd, that Monſ. *Bonnet*, fre- " quently and with good Succeſs, perform'd " this Operation at the *Hotel Dieu* in *Paris*; " and that Monſ. *Petit* has ſeen him perform " it." This is all the Account that I have met with of this *Bonnet*.

After him, Dr. *Groenevelt* was the next that perform'd it, of which he gives the following Account in the *Engliſh* Edition of his *Lithotomy*, publiſh'd at *London* in 1710.

" I once had a Patient in *Long Lane, Moor-* " *fields*, upon whom I was oblig'd to per- " form this High Operation; and very ſuc- " ceſsfully extracted the Stone, by making " Inciſion near the Groin, the Patient ſoon " recovering; which ſhews, that Wounds in " the fibrous Part of the Bladder are not " always mortal.

Thoſe are the only Three that I have met with, that ever pretended to have cut above the *Os Pubis*, *i. e.* into the Belly.

Franco

Franco cut so first, because he had a Patient that he could not cut his own Way, tho', at the same Time, he had the Character of one of the best *Lithotomists* of his Age. But tho' he succeeded, yet, it seems, he found such Difficulties in it, that he would never do't again, and charges us never to follow his Example; which one would have expected that he should have explain'd in his Account of it, the better to deter others from the like Practice.

Bonnet is said to have done it several Times with Success; yet he don't recommend it to others as a Rule of Practice, nor was ever imitated by any of his Contemporaries.

Groenevelt did it but once, and says, he was oblig'd to do it: I suppose, in some such-like Case as *De Franco's*; and though he also succeeded, yet, instead of recommending it, he only draws this Consequence from it, *viz.* That Wounds of the fibrous Part of the Bladder are not always mortal.

Franco cut on the Hair above the *Pubis*, a little on one Side; *Groenevelt* near the Groin: But not one of them tells us what Instruments they used, or which Way they used them; whether they made a cross, oblique, or longitudinal Incision; whether they made the Incision at once, or at several Times, or what Position they put their Patient in; all which, and many more Circumstances, ought to have been exactly describ'd, before any one could be said to have

follow'd

follow'd their Method; from whence I may very safely infer, that it will be no easy matter to tell which Way any of them made their Operations, and yet it's commonly asserted with the greatest Assurance (not with any Design to raise *De Franco*'s Reputation, but to lessen mine) that I made this Operation after *De Franco*'s Method, though he has told but very little of his Story, and I have told none of mine.

Upon the Whole, I must say, that it's a Miracle to me, that after so much Success, either they, or those that saw them do it, did not either continue the Practice of it, or give us more substantial Reasons why they disapprov'd of it; so far from that, they have not given us one Instance of a Patient's dying after this Section.

This Operation is also recommended as a very probable Way by *Roussetus*, *Dionis*, &c. yet not one of them was ever so far perswaded of it as to make the Experiment, however several of them have undertaken (which none that ever made the Operation thought fit to do) to describe the Method how it may be done, *i. e.* to teach others to perform what they can't do themselves; (which, in my Opinion is the greatest Absurdity in Nature;) but to what Purpose, he that makes the Experiment will see.

Having thus recited all the Instances that I have met with of the Stone in the Bladder, being extracted through the Belly, in the Words of the Authors, That every one may

be a Judge of the Encouragement I had to undertake this Operation from what has been done this Way before.

I shall next give an Account of the Objections made againſt the fore-mention'd Gentlemens Operations, by ſome of the moſt authentick Authors that have mention'd them.

Firſt, Some ſay that the Urine from the Bladder, and the Diſcharge from the Wound, will flow into the Cavity of the *Abdomen* or *Pelvis*, where Corrupting, will occaſion ſeveral grievous and incurable Symptoms, amongſt whom is Dr. *Drelincount*, &c. who expreſſes himſelf thus:

" *Operatio Franconiana ut inventa eſt ſic*
" *exolevit, quia dum perfunderetur Veſicæ fun-*
" *dum Urina Effluebat in Abdominis Cavum &*
" *Mortem inducit*, i. e.

" The *Franconian* Section, *viz.* the high
" Operation, died aſſoon as it was invented;
" becauſe when the Fund of the Bladder is
" perforated, the Urine flows into the Cavity
" of the Belly and cauſes Death.

Secondly, Others ſay that the Wound being made in the membranous Part of the Bladder, won't heal again, amongſt whom is *Barbett*, &c. who has theſe Words:

" Peri-

" *Periculosa interim & in se molesta Operatio*
" *est, & quod si Labia Vulneris in Vesica facti*
" *haud uniantur Musculis Abdominis, exulceratio*
" *vesicæ sequitur, magis dolorifica minus cura-*
" *bilis ipso Calculo, quæ etiam incommoda effe-*
" *cerent quod minus Operationibus aliis haberi*
" *cœperit à practicis veris*, i. e.

" It's a dangerous and in it self a trouble-
" some Operation; and if the Lips of the
" Wound made in the Bladder don't unite
" to the Muscles of the *Abdomen*, an Ulcera-
" tion of the Bladder will follow, more pain-
" ful and less curable than the Stone it self,
" which Inconveniencies have made it less
" esteem'd than the other Operations by true
" Practitioners.

Thirdly, Monſ. *Thevinin*, a very eminent Surgeon, in his Book of Chirurgical Obſervations, pnbliſh'd at *Paris* in the Year 1669, *Pag.* 68. gives this Account of it, *viz.*

" *L'haut appareil qui a este premierement prati-*
" *que par de Franco n'est point en usage à present,*
" *à Cause de l'incision qui'l oblige de faire au*
" *fonds & corps inferieur de la vessie qui apporte*
" *de grand accidens*, i. e.

" The high Operation, firſt practisd by *de*
" *Franco*, is no more in Uſe, becauſe the In-
" ciſion being made in the Fund and Body
" of the Bladder cauſes great Accidents.

Fourthly, Others say that the Guts will burst out at the Wound, &c.

Thomas Fienus, in the 70th Page of his Book, *De præcipuis Artis Chirurgicæ Controversiis*, Edit. 1602. gives his Opinion of this high Operation, in these Words:

"*Præter hactenus usitatam Sectionem exortus est, Franciscus Rousettus, qui in Libro suo de Partu Cæsario scribit, videri longe seruiorem & faciliorem sectionis rationem futuram, si Venter aut Abdomen a Latere sub umbilico aperiantur, & imposita per foramen manu vesicæ corpus vulneretur & inde calculus eximatur. Sed illa ratio non valet: vesicæ enim vulnus lethale est, & non potest consolidari, & quamvis aliquando legatur consolidatum, est tamen rara avis, & temerariùm nimis foret, & quia illam rationem nemo secutus est, de ea non agimus*, i. e.

"Besides the common Ways of Cutting, "there's one *Fr. Rousettus*, who affirms in "his Book of the *Cæsarian* Birth, that the "Operation would be safer and easier, if "we cut through the Belly (a little below "the Navel, and on one Side) and into the "Bladder, and then extracted the Stone "through the Wound. But that can't be, "because Wounds of the Bladder are mor-"tal, and cannot be consolidated; altho' "we have some Histories of their being cur'd,

" it's

" it's a Great Rarity, and therefore it's too " rash an Undertaking; and because no Body " practises it, I'll say no more on't.

The Answer to all which (not to descend to Particulars) is the happy Success of my Operation.

The next Question that naturally follows, is, What could incite or encourage me to undertake this high Operation, which those that had done it, had such an indifferent Opinion of, which those eminent Authors (just quoted, and almost every one else that have mention'd it) exclaim'd so warmly against, and which, by the common Consent of Mankind, was deem'd impracticable?

To which I answer: That it was, first, because I was fully perswaded that the great Danger, Tediousness, and frequent bad Consequences of the common Operations, were entirely owing to the Structure of the Parts concern'd, which the best Operator could not avoid, if the Stone was of any considerable Bigness, or of a rugged irregular Figure.

Secondly, Because I was as firmly perswaded, that all the Objections made against the fore mention'd Gentlemens Operations, (so far as they concern mine) were very ill grounded; which is prov'd by the Success.

The

The Two Operations that are only in Use now amongst us are, *First*, That which Surgeons call Cutting on the Staffe, *i. e.* When a furrow'd Probe is pass'd into the Bladder, upon which they afterwards Cut.

The other is call'd cutting on the Gripe, *i. e.* When they pass their Fingers into the Fundament, and press the Stone outwards, and then cut upon it.

In order to explain what I have just now asserted, *viz.* That the Danger, Tediousness, *&c.* of the common Operations, are entirely owing to the Structure of the Parts concern'd. I shall first describe the Parts concern'd in each, and then make such Conclusions as naturally follow therefrom.

Cutting on the Staffe is most in Use, and therefore I shall begin with it.

Parts concern'd in Cutting on the Staffe, or Great Apparatus.

Parts Cut:

They cut first through the Skin, on one side of the *Rapha* of the *Perinæum*.

2*dly*, Through the *Accelerator Muscle*.

3*dly*, Through the Bulb of the *Urethra*.

Parts that are dilated.

The Incision being made, opens a Passage into the membranous Part of the *Urethra*, at the upper-end of which is the *Sphincter* of the Bladder, through both which the Instruments

ments must pass into the Bladder, and the Stone, tho' enlarg'd by the Thickness of the *Forceps*, must pass out.

They are both apt to be too much dilated by a large, and lacerated by a rugged Stone.

The membranous *Urethra*, is about Two Inches long, more or less, according to the Bigness of the Person.

It's about as big (in a middle-siz'd Man) as to admit of a Goose Quill.

It's much longer, and not so thick and strong, as the *Urethra* in Women, and consequently more liable to be injur'd.

The *Sphincter* is a few circular Fibres, which keep the Bladder shut, and so prevents the involuntary Discharge of the Urine.

The Genital Parts, which by the Nearness of their Situation are liable to be injur'd, next after the foremention'd, are:

First, The *Vesiculæ Seminales*, i. e. the Reservatories of the Seed: They are situate immediately behind the *Sphincter*, between the Bladder and *Rectum*, i. e. the straight Gut.

Secondly, Their *Ducts*; which pass from them, and open about the Middle of the membranous Part of the *Urethra*, by Two Orifices, which are cover'd by a sort of a Caruncle, call'd, *Caput Gallinaginis*, or *Verumontanum*; which serves instead of *Valves*, to hinder the involuntary emission of the Seed.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, The *Proſtate*; which are ſituate a little below the *Veſiculæ Seminales*, between the membranous *Urethra* and ſtraight Gut.

The Structure and Situation of the Parts being thus ſtated, it will not be difficult to deduce all the forementioned Inconveniencies from them, *viz.*

Firſt, The Danger of this Operation (to ſay no more) will appear from a Computation of the Number of thoſe that do and do not eſcape after it; which is (in general) occaſion'd by the Length and Streightneſs of the Paſſage before deſcrib'd, Figure and Bigneſs of the Stones, Force requir'd to extract them, *&c.* Whence the forementioned Parts, *&c.* are lacerated and contuſed to too great a Degree, and thence exceſſive Pain, Hemorrhagy, Loſs of Strength, *&c.* too great to be maſter'd.

Secondly, Every one that has made, or ſeen any Number of theſe Operations perform'd, cannot but be ſenſible of the Tedioufneſs of them (and conſequently of the Pain the Patient muſt needs ſuffer) which is owing to the Length and Streightneſs of the Paſſage (which cannot be alter'd, as is commonly ſuppos'd, by enlarging the External Orifice,) Number, and Neceſſary Largeneſs of the Inſtruments uſed; Number, Bigneſs, and Figure of the Stones, *&c.*

Thirdly, The bad Conſequences that frequently follow this Operation (in thoſe that eſcape

escape with Life) are, *Incontinency of Urine*, *Impotency*, *Fistula's*, &c. which every one must be satisfy'd of, that have seen any Number of them: In some of whom you'll observe an *Incontinency of Urine*, in others *Impotency*, in others *Fistula's*, in others all of them; any one of which is very little better than the Stone itself.

Cause of the Incontinency of Urine.

It's caused when the Sphincter of the Bladder is over-stretched by the Bigness, or lacerated by the Asperitys of the Stone; because it can never afterwards do its Office as before; And so the Urine flows involuntarily Day and Night, which keeps them always wet, from whence none of the most agreeable Scents arise.

Cause of the Impotency.

It's occasion'd by the Laceration of the Ducts of the *Vesiculæ Seminales*, or the *Verumontanum*; and that by the Bigness or Asperitys of the Stone, as before: So when the Wound heals, the Ducts, or *Verumontanum*, are stopp'd by the *Callous*, so that the Seed can no more flow into the *Urethra*.

Cauſe of Fiſtulas.

Theſe Parts are Membranous, Nervous, or Spermatick, as Authors call them, and, of Courſe, very unapt to heal when wounded, lacerated, or contuſed; which is alſo increas'd by the conſtant Paſſage of the Urine, Gravel, *&c.* thro' the Wound, and ſo they turn fiſtulous; and then all or a great Part of the Urine, which ſhould paſs thro' the Yard, paſſes thro' the Fiſtula left in the Wound; whence People are made nauſeous to themſelves and others.

The Great *Hildanus*, *pag.* 733, expreſſes the Danger of this Operation in theſe Words:

" *Ingens ac magnus Calculus ut per Collum*
" *Veſicæ extrahatur, propter ejus anguſtiam*
" *longum requirit tempus, interim æger ingen-*
" *tibus affligitur Doloribus, Veſica, ipſiuſque*
" *Fibræ dilacerantur, Sanguis copioſè profluit,*
" *vires diſſolvuntur, maximoque cum Cruciatu*
" *æger vel in ipſa Operatione aut paulò poſt*
" *extinguitur*, i. e.

" When a large Stone is extracted through
" the Neck of the Bladder, becauſe of its
" Streightneſs, it takes up a long Time; In
" the mean Time, the Patient ſuffers intole-
" rable Pain, the Bladder and its Fibres are

" tore,

" tore, there's a great Flux of Blood, Loſs
" of Strength, and the Patient, by reaſon
" of the great Torture, dies, either in or
" ſoon after the Operation.

The late Mr. *Couper*, in his Comment upon *Bidloo*, has the following Obſervations on the Accidents which happen from the Structure of the Parts.

" This Part of the *Urethra*, *viz.* that be-
" tween the *Proſtatæ* and the *Bulb*, is liable
" to be wounded, and ſometimes perforated,
" by too haſtily introducing the Conductor
" into the Bladder, after an Inciſion is made
" in the *Perinæum* in Cutting for the Stone;
" whereby the Operator afterwards thruſts
" his *Forceps* between the Bladder and *Re-*
" *ctum*.

" This Inadvertency, I'm perſuaded, is
" very often practiſed by the Pretenders to
" *Lithotomy*, and frequently proves fatal to
" the Patient: One would think it hardly
" poſſible, that a Man in his Senſes, and
" but tolerably acquainted with Anatomy,
" could commit ſuch Errors; yet, of this I
" have met with more than one Inſtance,
" when being called to diſſect the Deceaſed,
" in whom ſuch Operators have been ſo un-
" fortunate as to leave the Stone ſtill in the
" Bladder.

So much to shew the unavoidable Danger, &c. of Cutting on the *Straffe*.

The other Operation in use is Cutting on the *Gripe*.

Parts cut.

They cut (farther off of the *Raphe* of the *Perinæum* than in the foregoing Operation) 1. Through the Skin: 2. The Fat: 3. Part of the *Erector Penis*: 4. Some considerable Blood-Vessels: 5. A Part of the *Levator Ani*: 6. Into the Body of the Bladder above the *Sphincter*.

This Operation can't always be practis'd, because our Fingers are not long enough to bring down and keep the Stone fast against the *Perinæum* in grown People. Though, when it can be done,

The Inconveniencies of it are,

1. When the Stone is rough, it's troublesome, painful, and tedious, to make the Incision on it.

2. The Arteries, which are cut, are often very large.

3. When the Stone is rough, it pricks, and contuses the Bladder in several Places, by being pressed hard against the *Perinæum*; whence several dangerous and deadly Symptoms ensue.

4. The

4. The Wound in the Bladder being depending, is hinder'd from solutioning, by the Gravel and Urine passing thro' it, &c.

From all which, I think 'tis evident, that the rare Success of these Operations, even in the best of Hands, (not to mention the Havock that is often made by Pretenders) is entirely owing to the Structure of the Parts concern'd; which is what I undertook to prove.

Advantages of this new Operation.

Whereas, in the other Operations, the Danger, *&c.* are owing to the Structure of the Parts; in my Operation, by reason of the Structure of the Parts, they are successfully prevented. *E. G.*

1. There can be no Impotency caused by it, because there's none of the Genital Parts can be injur'd in doing it.
2. There can be no Incontinency of Urine caus'd by it, because the *Sphincter* of the Bladder cannot be hurt in making it.
3. There can be no Fistula after it, if proper Care is taken of the Wound.
4. There can be no such Force requir'd to extract the Stone, as will contuse and lacerate the Parts, which, in the other Operations, are the Cause of Symptoms too hard to be govern'd) because the Wound may be made

made as large as you pleaſe, which can't be done in them.

5. There can't be any Flux of Blood, becauſe there's no Occaſion to cut any of the great Veſſels, *&c.* Thus the Defects of the others are ſupply'd by this.

My Patient was between ſixteen and ſeventeen Years of Age, and was cut two Days before laſt *Chriſtmas*, and in a Month's Time the Wound was perfectly cicatriz'd, *i. e.* healed.

The Operation was over in one Minute, and I believe will never be above two.

He now performs all his natural Faculties as well as he had never been troubled with the Stone.

There were two Phyſicians, two Surgeons, and an Apothecary, preſent at the Operation: But to ſave them the Trouble of anſwering every little Prig's impertinent Queſtions, I don't think it's proper to mention them.

The Stone was of the Bigneſs and Figure expreſs'd in the Plate following.

Some

The Natural figure & Bigness of y^e Stone

Some ſay that I have robb'd the Dead of their Right, and endeavour'd to impoſe on the Living, by putting my own Name to another Man's Work, and pretending that it's a new Operation, though, at the ſame Time, it was practis'd by its firſt Inventor, *De Franco*, above 150 Years ago.

De

De Franco (whose Memory I reverence, because he was certainly an excellent Surgeon, and one of the best *Lithotomists* in his Time) is so far from valuing himself upon the *High Operation*, which he was once forc'd to make, that he owns himself to be very much to blame for doing of it, and desires no Man afterwards to follow his Example; and in the Room of that, in the preceding Part of that very same Chapter, recommends another which is made on the *Perinæum*, which he assumes, and, with a great deal of Pleasure, calls his own Invention.

Hildanus is also of the same Opinion, and expresses himself thus, *Pag.* 730.

" *De quarto operandi modo, in* Lithotomia
" *usitato, qui merito* Lithotomia Franconiana
" *appellari potest.*

And so he goes on to describe and recommend that Operation, which *De Franco* owns in the 33d Chapter of his Book, to be his proper Invention: But it's not the *High*, but an Operation in the *Perinæum*, that's assum'd by the one, and commended by the other.

In Page 732, he has these Words:

" Franciscus Rousettus *Lib. de partu Cæsa-*
" *rio concludere volait, semper calculum eo in*

" *Loco*

" *Loco exsecandum esse, illudque minori cum pe-*
" *riculo fieri posse.* Lithotomiam *proinde illam*
" Franconianam *vocat, cum tamen* D. Franc.
" *eam minimè ad Imitationem præscripserit,*
" *sed expresse in Libro suo, se stolide egisse*
" *fateatur, adeoque unumquemque, ne ipsum hac*
" *in parte imitetur, sed precedentem operandi*
" *modum amplectatur, Hortetur.*

" *Franciscus Rousettus*, in his Book on the
" *Cæsarian* Birth, asserts, that we ought al-
" ways to cut for the Stone through the
" lower Part of the Belly, because it can be
" done with a great deal less Danger; and
" then calls it *De Franco*'s Method, notwith-
" standing *De Franco* never prescrib'd it as a
" Rule; so far from which, he confesses in
" his own Book, that he acted foolishly in
" doing it; and therefore advises us never
" to imitate him in it, but in the Operation
" just before describ'd.

He concludes his Story thus:

" *Cum dicto igitur* D. Franco, *fideli atque*
" *industrio cuivis Chirurgo periculosæ hujus*
" Lithotomiæ *Administrationem iterum atque*
" *iterum dissuadeo.*

" Therefore, with the forementionꝺ *De*
" *Franco*, I again and again dissuade every
" faithful and industrious Surgeon from per-
" forming this dangerous Operation.

From all which I conclude, that inſtead of being an Honour to *De Franco*, to have had his Name put to it, it would have been a real Injury to the Memory of the Dead, to have made him the Author of an Operation, that he blam'd himſelf for doing when alive.

Nay, I'm ſo far from having an Opinion of *De Franco*'s Operation, as he has deſcrib'd it, that I think it's fully as inconſiſtent and impracticable as *Talicotius*'s Project of reſtoring loſt Noſes.

All the Analogy between his and mine, is, that they are both made in the Belly. But his was made in one Place of the Belly, and mine in another: His, with his own Inſtruments, (which he has not mention'd) mine with mine: His were uſed after one Manner, mine after another: And thoſe, I think, are the moſt material Differences betwixt any two Operations, *viz.* The Variation of the Place upon which the Operation is made, of the Number, Figure, and Size of the Inſtruments, and of the Method of uſing them.

The two forementioned Operations, call'd, Cutting on the *Staffe*, and Cutting on the *Gripe*, are both made on the *Perinæum*: The Deſign of both is the ſame, *viz.* To extract

the Stone out of the Bladder; yet no Man ever was ſo abſurd as to call them both the ſame Operations, for the Reaſons before-mention'd.

The late famous Mr. *Rau*, Profeſſor of Phyſick and Surgery at *Leyden*, and the fore-mention'd *De Franco*, and ſeveral others, as *Celſus*, *Guido*, *Marianus*, *&c.* had each a particular Method of Cutting on the *Perinæum*, to which every one gave his own Name, and why ſhould not I be allow'd the ſame Liberty.

But ſuppoſing that my Operation was, in every Tittle, the ſame as *De Franco*'s; yet, if it's found to be a ſafer and eaſier Way of relieving the Miſerable, it's nevertheleſs new; for that Operation was as much dead, before mine, and thought as much impracticable, (which the general Opinion of the Town on this Occaſion abundantly proves) as it was 150 Years before *De Franco* was born.

I readily grant, that one Operation, tho' ſucceſsfully perform'd, is not enough to ſatisfy the Publick that it's the ſafeſt Method; but it's enough to me, who, before the Operation, thought myſelf very ſure of Succeſs, elſe I had never attempted it. But now I have perform'd it, and ſeen the whole Proceſs of the Cure, I'm in no manner of Pain

about the future Succeſs of it; nay, I dare venture to prophecy, that not one in ten will die, nor one in fifty want a perfect Cure, that do after the common Methods; and therefore do (what never any did before) recommend it as the moſt eaſy, ſafe, and ſpeedy Method of extracting the Stone, (excluſive of all others) in Males, and when the Stone is large, in Females.

I have had a great many vile, malicious, and falſe Reflections caſt upon me, on this Occaſion, by a Set of *Scioli*, who (becauſe they never did anything out of the common Road themſelves) envy every Man elſe that does.

The Imputation of Novelty (ſays the great Mr. *Lock*) is a terrible Charge among thoſe who judge of Mens Heads, as they do of their Perukes, by the Faſhion, and can allow none to be right but the receiv'd Doctrines. Truth ſcarce ever carry'd it by Vote any where at its firſt Appearance: New Opinions are always ſuſpected, and uſually oppos'd, without any other Reaſon, but becauſe they are not already common: But Truth, like Gold, is not the leſs ſo, for being newly brought out of the Mine.

Magna eſt Veritas, & prevalebit.

FINIS.

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